

Appl. No. 10/018,626

Amendment dated February 11, 2004

Reply to Non-final Office Action of October 10, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 9 through page 5, line 3 with the following amended paragraph:

The film ~~foil~~ has anchoring elements on at least one side. Their length is at least 0.05 mm and preferably at least 0.2 mm and only rarely exceeds 10 mm. The anchoring elements may be embedded in the film, but preferably project beyond the plane of the film. In the latter case, the film may be a typical velcro tape, an antislip tape or a "stubble" film, for example a flocked film. However, not all forms of anchoring elements of typical velcro tapes are equally suitable. Thus, anchoring elements with undercuts (acute angle between pin and hook) or with loop-like spirals or closed loops are unfavorable. The same applies to anchoring elements with such an intensive anchoring effect that they are torn out during separation. Thus, in the case of a mushroom-shaped anchoring element, the cross-sectional diameter of the cap should be less than 10 times the value of the stalk of the mushroom. Anchoring elements with loops are of course particularly unfavorable (see Fig. 2). The shapes of the anchoring elements are favorable when they allow sliding out from the coherent layer without losing their function or being torn off (see Fig. 3). Particularly favorable forms are characterized in that the angle between the pin and the hook is 90° or larger (see Fig. 4). However, it must be smaller than 180° because otherwise no hooking occurs unless the pin is oblique rather than vertical in relation to the film. If then the pins still point in different directions, they also effect

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anchorage of the nonfibrous coherent layer. In contrast to conventional velcro tapes, the anchoring elements or their pins may also form an angle of less than 90° and preferably less than 45° to the film. Which angle is the most favorable will depend inter alia on the deformability of the coherent layer.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 15 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 7 is a schematic cross-section through a composite material according to the invention of the following layers:

- a) decorative layer (3),
- b) adhesive layer (4),
- c) film (2) with anchoring elements (1),
- d) adhesive layer (4) and
- e) substrate (6).

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 8, line 25 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 8 is a schematic cross-section through a composite material according to the invention comprising the following layers:

- a) decorative layer (3),
- b) film (2) with anchoring elements (1) on both sides ~~and~~
- c) adhesive layer (4) and
- d) carpet as the fibrous substrate (6).